

## Scottish Resilience

### Scottish Fire and Rescue Advisory Unit

Brian Fraser QFSM, MIFireE, Head of the Fire and Rescue Advisory Unit



T: 0131-244 2342 F: 0131-244 2564

E: Brian.Fraser2@scotland.gsi.gov.uk

The Clerks to the Joint Fire and Rescue Boards  
The Chief Executive, Dumfries and Galloway Council  
The Chief Executive, Fife Council  
The Chief Officer

19 March 2010

Dear Sir/Madam

### **SCOTTISH FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE CIRCULAR 5/2010**

#### **THE PROVISION OF OPERATIONAL GUIDANCE FOR FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICES IN SCOTLAND - GENERIC RISK ASSESSMENTS**

1. Further to Scottish Fire and Rescue Service Circular 09/2009 and the subsequent establishment of the Scottish Operational Guidance Programme Board, it has been determined that the status of Communities and Local Government (CLG) guidance should be clarified.
2. Guidance issued by CLG applies to England only and is routinely marked to that effect. Where it is deemed that any such piece of guidance applies equally and without the necessity of modification or alteration to Scottish Fire and Rescue Authorities and/or their services, a Scottish Fire and Rescue Service Circular will be issued confirming its application. Subject to the nature and urgency of the particular guidance, this will normally be done after referral to the Scottish Operational Guidance Programme Board. All operational guidance issued will be subject to verification by the Board.
3. An exception to this general rule is the issue of Generic Risk Assessments (GRAs) relating to operational procedures. In the case of GRAs issued by CLG, unless advised to the contrary through the issue of a Scottish Fire and Rescue Service Circular, Scottish Services should adopt the relevant GRA as good practice when developing their own operational policies and procedures. The applicability or otherwise of the GRA to Scotland will thereafter be confirmed at the first subsequent Scottish Operational Guidance Programme Board.

4. These measures are being taken as it is recognised that GRAs form key safety critical guidance for services which the Scottish Government considers should be available to stakeholders at the earliest opportunity, avoiding any potential delays resulting from administrative processes.

List of Current CLG GRAs to Note

[Generic Risk Assessments: Introduction](#)

[Generic Risk Assessment 1.1: Emergency response and arrival at the scene](#)

[Generic Risk Assessment 5.8: Flashover, backdraught and fire gas ignitions](#)

[Generic Risk Assessment 2.2: Ice and Unstable Ground](#)

[Generic Risk Assessment 4.3: Incidents involving transport systems - Air](#)

[Generic Risk Assessment 4.1: Incidents Involving Transport Systems - Road](#)

[Generic Risk Assessment 5.10: Working at Heights](#)

[Generic Risk Assessment 2.1.3: Trenches/Pits](#)

5. On receipt of this Fire and Rescue Service Circular, Fire and Rescue Services are advised to review their current policies and procedures for these GRAs and update as required.

Yours faithfully



**Brian Fraser**  
**Head of the Scottish Fire and Rescue Advisory Unit**